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The Daily Courant.

Friday, December 14. 1705.

London, December 14.

A Letter written by a *Poliſh Knight*, concerning the *Power* of the *Pope*, and his *Brief* againſt the *Primate* and *Biſhops Senators* of the Kingdom of *Poland*, in *Auguſt* 1705. Done from the Original in Latin.

I Am extremely pleas'd that what I ſaid at our laſt Meeting, when the Pope's injurious Treatment of our Republiek fell into Diſcourſe, was not only judg'd reaſonable and juſt by many of the Company, but was ſo well approv'd by you, honoured Sir, that you deſir'd me to put into Form in Writing the Arguments I then ſtarted. I obey you: From an abundant Store I ſelect the chief Inſtances of the Arrogance of the Court of Rome, and will ſhew how unwarrantably they take upon them to inſult a free People. I have look'd narrowly into their Miſtery of Iniquity, and (what adminiſters juſt Grief) expoſe it with more Freedom than is perhaps convenient. I muſt therefore enjoyn you to communicate what I write to none but the noble and generous-ſpirited N. N. For though what I advance be ſupported with ſuch clear and ſolid Reaſons, that I need fear no Cenſure; yet ſince I know there are Men whoſe private Intereſt, Ignorance, or long retain'd Errors, will make them look upon ſuch Writings to be level'd againſt the Catholick Faith, I have no Mind to draw a Swarm of thoſe Wasps upon me. The Truth is, the number of thoſe who are acquainted with the Merits of this Cauſe, and know by what Means we fell into Servitude to the Court of Rome, is very ſmall: And no Wonder; for the Clergy make it a Crime but to murmur againſt the Proceedings of the moſt bleſſed Father, much more to queſtion the Sanctity and Juſtice of them; and the Laity thinking Matters of Religion do not fall under their Cognizance, never trouble themſelves with Diſquiſitions of this Nature, but look upon all that does not ſquare with the Opinions commonly receiv'd, to be novel and erroneous.

'Tis the Glory of our Nation, that they have always ſhewn a ſingular Zeal and Veneration for Religion; inſomuch that they have rather choſen to ſuffer with blind Obedience the greateſt Hardſhips from the See of Rome; than incur the leaſt Imputation of Irreverence towards the reputed Vicar of Chriſt: 'Twas the Poles that ſat in the Council of Trent, who moſt ſignally and effectually contributed to the eſtabliſhing of the Pope's Authority, which at that Time began to totter very much, and was call'd in Queſtion by others. But ſince the Court of Rome, not ſatisfied with exerciſing Juriſdiction in Spirituals, pretend to ſubject the Rights of the Republick to their Deciſions, we cannot wink at and ſubmit to it, without betraying the Liberties to which we were born. The inſolent Proceedings of the Apoſtolical Nuncioes that for ſome Years have reſided in Poland, are (to the Scandal of the Poliſh Name) ſufficiently notorious. When they ſaw the Republick plung'd in a Sea of Calamities, and in imminent Danger of Periſhing, they had the Confidence to ſet up a Cry againſt us if they perceiv'd we made the leaſt Struggle to ſave our ſelves. They could ſuffer King Auguſtus to rend Poland; they could connive at all the abominable *Means* he us'd to gratifie his wicked Paſſions; and, as though he had been in the beſt of Cauſes, encourage and excite him to proceed as he had begun. But when we ſhew'd we would have Recourſe to the Remedy Nature and Reaſon preſcribe againſt Tyrants, they declaim'd againſt it as a moſt horrible Sin, and preſum'd to threaten us. They exclaim'd againſt the introducing Troops of Hereticks into the Kingdom; and declar'd no Puniſhment was bad enough for thoſe who ſhould favour or aſſiſt them: At the ſame Time they could ſee no Hurt in Poland's being overrun by Saxon Troops infected with the ſame Hereſy; not tho' the Churches were plunder'd, things ſacred profan'd, and Perſons in holy Orders treated vilely. What ſhall I ſay of the Muſcovites, and the reſt of the Rabble of Barbarians, whom though Schiſmaticks or Idolaters Auguſtus that Father of the Country call'd into Poland? Muſt we believe theſe pious Forces came to extirpate Hereticks? We who know the End of their coming was, to ſhare the Kingdom and the Prey with King Auguſtus, could they expell the Swedes. We cannot learn the Swedes have injur'd any Perſon for the Cauſe of Religion; on the contrary they are under a moſt ſtrict Reſtraint from offering Violence or Indignity to Perſons or Places Sacred: But we have heard the Czar has not only threaten'd our Religion, and publickly ſpit upon conſecrated Images, but cruelly butcher'd innocent Prieſts that have defended their Altars. While they approve the bringing in of theſe moſt hurtful Enemies of the Catholick Religion, they raiſe a Clamour againſt us becauſe the Swedes are in the Heart of the Kingdom, though 'tis well known they were drawn into it by the flying Saxons. But as we may hope the Swedes will be gone ſome Time or other; ſo we are ſure that if King Auguſtus can get faſt Footing in Poland, we ſhall never be rid of our other Plague. Our firſt Care therefore ſhould be to clear the Country of that Rubbiſh, if we would expel the reſt of the Heretick Troops. In the mean time, while the Enemy is in our Bowels, we ſee our Senators ſeiz'd and carried away; and to compleat our Miſery, we alſo ſee our moſt holy Father the Pope priding himſelf in our Spoils. The Biſhop of Poſnania, a Senator that had deſerv'd highly of the Republick, is not only ſent a Priſoner to Rome, for doing what the Eſtates of the Kingdom order'd him, but is there call'd to an account for Actions in which Religion is not in the leaſt concern'd. Having thus open'd themſelves a Way, the Court of Rome proceed further without fear or ſhame; The Biſhops, who alſo bear the Office of Senators in the Republick, are forbid to unite the divided Members under one Head by crowning the elected King: The Primate, who repreſents the Majeſty of the whole Republick, is ſummon'd out of the Kingdom, is depriv'd of all the Dignities he held of the Republick. Do theſe Actions denote St. Peter's Succeſſor, the Head of the Church, the Vicegerent to whoſe Care God has committed the Chriſtian World? Do they not rather repreſent a Patron of wicked Men, an Oppreſſor of the Innocent, an Enemy

my of the Catholicks, and the Fomenter of a moſt unhappy War? What an Imitator of our Saviour Chriſt is this? He that ſhould pity the deplorable Condition of Poland, aggravates her Miſery: The Commotions he ſhould appeaſe, he inflames; and when Religion requires all his Attention, is taken up with the Purſuit of temporal Power. Not content to have the Church obey him, he would have Kings lay their Scepters beneath his Feet.

I never entertain'd a Thought of quitting the Religion I was brought up in, the Truth of which Religion the Church preſerves in the ſacred Scriptures and the Writings of the holy Fathers: But I do nothing unbecoming a Catholick in defending the Rights of my Country, and reſcuing them from the inſolent and baſe Attempts of thoſe, who under a ſpecious Maſk of Religion endeavour to extinguiſh the Spirit of Liberty. In doing this I am not broaching any Hereſy; but tread in the Steps of very wiſe Men, who though nurs'd in the Boſom of the Church, and notwithſtanding they conſtantly perſever'd in its Communion, have detected the Abuſes of the Romiſh Hierarchy, without deſiring its Subverſion. The Subject I am upon is very copious, but I will bring into a narrow Compaſs what I think moſt material and uſeful with reſpect to the preſent Times. In the firſt Place, I ſhall examine the Right or Title upon which the Hierarchy the Pope claims in things ſacred and civil is founded. The Catholicks urge, that this Power was inſtituted by Chriſt himſelf, when he told St. Peter he would give him the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and that the Biſhops of Rome are by uninterrupted Succeſſion poſſeſs'd of thoſe Keys.

This Letter ſhall be continued in our next.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this preſent Friday, being the 14th of December, will be preſented, a Comedy, call'd, The Squire of Alſatia; with Singing by Mr. Hughs, Mr. Hamerton and the Boy; and Dancing by Monſieur Cherrier, and Mrs. Moſs; alſo by Mrs. Evans, taught by Monſieur Siris. And to morrow being Saturday (at the Deſire of ſeveral Perſons of Quality) will be preſented, a Play, call'd, King Henry the IVth with the Humours of Sir John Falſtaff: The Part of Falſtaff to be perform'd by Mr. Eſtcourt; with Dancing by Monſieur Du Ruel and Mrs Du Ruel; and the Famous Signiora Franciſca Margarita de l'Epine will perform ſeveral Entertainments of Singing in Italian, compos'd by Signior Bononcini, and the beſt Maſters. And an Engliſh Song ſet by the late Mr. Henry Purcell.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, this preſent Friday, being the 14th of December will be preſented, a Comedy, call'd, The Rover: or, The Baniſh'd Cavaliers; with ſeveral Entertainments of Dancing: Particularly, a new Grand Dance to be perform'd by Monſieur L' Abbe, Monſieur de Barques, Monſieur Serancour, Monſieur de la Garde, Mrs. Elford, and Madamoiſelle de Noiſy. And to morrow being Saturday the 15th, will be preſented, The laſt new Tragedy call'd, Ulyſſes; with ſeveral Entertainments of Italian Singing by the Famous Signiora Louvicini lately arriv'd, it being the firſt time of her Performance in England.

Theſe Plays are Sold by J. Knapton at the Crown in St. Paul's Church-yard, and B. Lintott Next Nando's Coffee-Houſe, Temple-Bar.

An Entertainment by Mr. *CLINCH of BARNET*, who imitates the Flute, Double Curtell, the Organ with 3 Voices, the Horn, Huntſman and Pack of Hounds, the German Doctor, the Old Woman, the Drunken Man, the Bells: All Inſtruments are perform'd by his natural Voice. To be ſeen this preſent Evening, at 7 a Clock at the Globe Tavern in Fleet-ſtreet. Price 1 s.

A Pair of very good Coach-horſes to be Sold; Enquire of John Turney at the Rainbow Coffee-houſe in Cornhil.

A very good Houſe with Stables, Gardens, Orchards well planted, and other Conveniencies; alſo about 20 Acres of Ground belonging to it, lying at Letherhead near Epſom in Surrey: Together with the Farm of Lath-hill in Ockly Pariſh in Surrey, are to be ſold. Enquire of Mr. Cloſe at Furnival's-Inn.

This Day being the 14th at 5 in the Afternoon; and to morrow at the ſame Hour will be continued the Sale by Auction, at the Temple Exchange Coffee-houſe in Fleet-ſtreet, a choice Collection of valuable Common and Statute Law Books and of other Engliſh Books.

This Day being the 14th of December, will continue the Sale by Auction, of a curious Collection of ſcarce and valuable Prints and Drawings, at the Marine Coffee-houſe in Birchin-lane Cornhil: Some of the Prints and Drawings by the beſt Maſters, viz. Mich. Angelo. Van Dike, Raphael, &c. The Prints and Drawings may be ſeen every Day before the Sale begins. Catalogues are deliver'd at the Place of Sale.

Juſt Publiſh'd,

A Trip to Leverpool, a Satyr addreſs'd to the Honourable the Commiſſioners of Her Majeſty's Cuſtoms. By a Gentleman of Lincolns-Inn. Printed for Richard Croskill in Lincolns-Inn New-Square; and ſold by John Nutt near Stationers-Hall.

This Day is Publiſh'd,

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In a little Time will be publiſh'd,

The Preacher; The Second Part. A Diſcourſe ſhewing 1. What particular Doctrines ought to be preached by the Diſpenſers of the Goſpel. 2. That theſe Doctrines are generally neglected or (which is moſt uſual) preached againſt. 3. What are the Cauſes of this Neglect and Oppoſition. 4. What are the dreadful Conſequences hereof. With continued Advice to Students in Divinity and to young Preachers. To which is annexed the Hearer, a brief Diſcourſe ſhewing what are the Qualifications required in thoſe Perſons who would receive Benefit and Advantage by the Word preached. By John Edwards D. D. Printed for J. Robinſon, J. Lawrence, and J Wyat.

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